

**01976**

**1996/12/04**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJ: CHINA-JAPAN RELATIONS (U)

(U) ~~(C)~~ KEY POINTS

(U) • ~~(C)~~ Beijing wary of US-Japan security alliance

(U) • ~~(C)~~ Both seek to maintain good relations for economic advantages

(U) ~~(C)~~ DISCUSSION

- ~~(C)~~ Sino-Japanese relations are always tenuous, reflecting historical animosity
- ~~(C)~~ Japan halted grant aid to China in Aug 95 to protest its ongoing nuclear tests
  
- ~~(C)~~ Beijing condemns alleged strengthening of the US-Japan security alliance
  - Beijing perceives Japan as northern anchor of US-sponsored containment alliance against China
- ~~(C)~~ The dispute over the Senkaku Islands has revived a diplomatic quagmire among China, Taiwan, and Japan

(U) • ~~(C)~~ Both Beijing and Tokyo are seeking to manage tensions

Declassified by: JICPAC, Mr. Finis Jeffery, ONN  
Date declassified by: 27 June 1997  
Authority: E.O. 12958, Sec. 1.5(c)(d)

ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 5 1